

tle Christ in it. We need to sit more at the feet of Jesus and learn of him, and lean on his bosom that we may imbibe the blessed spirit without which the apostle declares we are none of his. Whatever we do let there be much of the divine in it, much of the Christlife, and then all our deeds will be a blessing in this world of sin and sorrow. What Christ touches will be elevated, sanctified, blest, and made fit for the highest uses and purposes whereunto God has ordained it.

#### A Call to Service

We ask the attention of the young people while we speak to them an earnest word. In them we see the hope of the future church. Never before since the dawn of the Christian era were such glorious possibilities open to them as are open to them now. God is calling them into service, calling, not only "those with the clear brain and winsome ways and eloquent tongue and well-filled purse, but the poor, the weak, and the ignorant." He has room for them all. Among the twelve whom Christ chose that they might be with him and learn of him, there was not a learned rabbi, not a philosopher, not one of the great and the mighty. But in those twelve Christ could see wonderful and glorious possibilities. Three years of close, intimate, endearing relationship with the Master, sitting at his feet drinking in the sweet and beautiful lessons of love, humility, and service, made these twelve the mightiest men the world has ever known. Such possibilities Christ sees today in the great army of young people whom he is calling into his service. Dear young people, hearken to the voice of the Master for he is tenderly calling you now. Christ wants you, your heart with all its wealth of affection, your brain with all its strength of intellect, he wants your life, your service, your all. He is not looking for worldly wisdom, not for great oratory, but he is looking for young men and women, earnest, consecrated, loving souls, who will go out into the field and labor for him. You have a high calling in Christ Jesus. He has a special work for every young man and woman in the land. Whoever you are, whatever you are, wherever you are, the Master hath need of thee. From the throne of the King of kings the call has come, "Whom shall I send?" Let there be in the heart of every young person the glad response, "Here am I; send me." There is a mighty work to be done; the world is to be taken for Christ. The Lord wants an army of several million young people who will take the field and fight the battle for the right, for truth, for righteousness, for the kingdom of God. Who will go? Will you? Have you consecrated your heart and life to the Master and his service? Come, O come, lay your whole heart on the altar of redeeming love, that under fire which burns but consumes not, your affec-

tions set free from earthly dross, may rise to the throne of God and be glorified in the light of the Sun of Righteousness. Consecrate your heart to the Lord now, surrender your life to Christ, with all its vigor and strength and power, the prime and flower of of manhood. Do not wait until the years have come and gone, the years which should have been given to the Lord and his service, the years which should find you better and wiser and stronger, greater in results for God, richer in grace, sweeter in love and piety, more nearly ready for the life which is not measured by human calendars. My young friends, God wants the best you have, the best of your life, the heart's best treasures, its loftiest ambitions, its richest affections, its purest and most fragrant devotions. "O, do you see what a grand thing it is to work for God? To be associated with angels who do his pleasure, and with the ministry of Christ himself? Do you see the opportunities such as were never before so fully open to young people? You ought to be glad you live in a day like this. You ought to be so full of enthusiasm that you would march with your eyes straight before you and your head erect, conscious that you have your own place as soldiers in the ranks which no one else can fill, and that you are under a commander who leads to sure victory. The preparation must be made; but you can make it. It is to hear God's call; put yourself entirely in his hands; be filled with his Spirit; study his word; and obey his voice." May the Spirit of the Living God touch your hearts and the hearts of all the young people in this land, and bring them to the foot of the cross where they may learn heaven's lesson of love and consecration.

#### Patent Medicines

That "patent medicines" have done and are doing infinitely more harm than good is a well attested fact. In our Home Circle department this week appears an article on "Dangers and Harmfulness of Patent Medicines." The contribution is taken from the *New York Christian Advocate* of October 13, for which paper it was prepared by Mrs. Martha Allen. It is part first of a series of articles on the subject by the same author. Every mother in the land should be familiar with the facts made known by Mrs. Allen, and in the hope that others will profit by the information we reprint the article. In the same issue the editor calls attention to the evils of what he calls pernicious drinks now put on the market. It is as follows:

We deem it a duty to warn our readers against certain combinations of Kola and Coca, put on the market and served from soda fountains or otherwise. They are advertised as healthful, as promoting mental activity and clearness, as relieving fatigue, antidotes to overwork and insomnia. And it

is declared that they do all these things without any evil effects. They belong to the class of drinks that make themselves necessary; the effects they produce are chiefly medicinal, which means that if taken habitually or in more than the most limited quantities and at long intervals, they are injurious. Every effort is made to increase their use, and churches that would feel insulted if spoken of as lacking in refinement, have allowed fans by the hundred to be distributed thro the pews, with advertisements of the drinks on the side. Where such things are allowed, it is well to ascertain whether the person who consented to it, and thus scandalized the church, is pecuniarily interested in any way, or is merely devoid of discretion, and so amiable as to grant everything asked of him.

#### More Light than Darkness

Physical science and ordinary observation are in the habit of telling us that night and day are equal, that there is as much darkness as there is light, until we lose sight of the fact that darkness is merely a little cone of shadow streaming back from the earth for a short distance until it vanishes to a point. Beyond, and all around, and everywhere, it is always light. Floods of glory from the great luminary sweep on thro space without any interval of darkness, without so much as the flitting shadow of a cloud.

In our experience of the world and also in our spiritual experience we are apt to think that there is as much darkness as light. The shadows are often so dense and the light so hidden from our eyes that we come to look upon life as a divided empire, where by an immovable law the reign of night is as persistent and as wide as the reign of day. But it is not so. The empire of darkness is circumscribed. It is but the lengthened shadow of our own dwelling. Beyond, and all around is always the light. The empire of Glory is as wide as the universe and as enduring as the eternities. "Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart."

#### The Foundation of the Gospel

A French philosopher invented a new religion, but afterwards complained to Talleyrand of the difficulty he found in introducing it.

"I am not surprised," said Talleyrand. "It is a difficult matter to introduce a new religion, and I know of but one way in which you would have a possibility of success."

"What is it? what is it?" asked the other eagerly.

"It is this," said Talleyrand; "go and be crucified, then be buried, then rise again on the third day, and then go on working all sorts of astonishing miracles, and you may possibly accomplish your end."

It is needless to say that the philosopher